

**MINUTES OF THE  
BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008**

At a meeting of the **Budget Committee**, held Tuesday, January 22, 2008, in the Board Room, on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Brown-Chair, Brdak, Bruley, Camphous-Peterson, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Drolet, Duzyj, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegghem, Lund, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts, Rocca, Sauger, Slinde, Switalski, Szczepanski, Tocco, Torrice and Vosburg.

Absent and excused was Haggerty.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Vice Chair Sauger called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Joan Flynn, supported by Slinde, to adopt the agenda, as presented. **The Motion Carried.**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Judy Betts, 32527 Rosenbusch, Warren

Ms. Betts spoke in support of the Macomb County Library.

Tom Ulrich, Secretary, Shorewood Kiwanis

Mr. Ulrich spoke in support of the Macomb County Library.

**RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATE ON PENSION REVIEW PROJECT FROM PLANTE & MORAN** (Item postponed from 12-11-07)

Mr. Joseph Rankin from Plante & Moran overviewed his correspondence that was provided in committee packets, which was largely a clarification of the original intent of the project.

After the presentation, questions were directed to Mr. Rankin about market returns, hybrids, and the possibility of having some type of an age reduction table. During discussion, inquiries were directed to Mr. Diegel.

Chair Brown took the Chair at 9:27 a.m.

Mr. Rankin said that he tried to focus on the three primary permutations. He felt that a five-year projection probably makes a lot of sense. But, going out 20 years at 5% or 20 years at 10% does not start to make a whole lot of sense along the way.

A discussion ensued with Mr. Rankin about the actuarial fees and if the actuary can meet timing requirements.

### **MOTION**

A motion was made by Doherty, supported by Joan Flynn, to receive and file the update on the Pension Review Project from Plante & Moran. **The Motion Carried.**

### **AUTHORIZE ACTUARIAL FEES NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 IN SUPPORT OF THE PENSION REVIEW PROJECT** (Item postponed from 12-11-07)

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOHERTY, SUPPORTED BY DUZYJ, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE ACTUARIAL FEES NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 IN SUPPORT OF THE PENSION REVIEW PROJECT. **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH DROLET VOTING “NO.”**

### **RECOMMENDATION FROM JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 01-14-08**

Prior to the start of this committee meeting, a copy of the revised Contract for Professional Service Provider was distributed.

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RENGERT, SUPPORTED BY VOSBURG, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SOUND COUNSELING, INC. TO PROVIDE THERAPEUTIC SERVICES AT THE MACOMB COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER. THE CONTRACT WILL FACILITATE A SAVINGS OF \$28,600 ANNUALLY. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### **DIRECT COUNTY CLERK TO MAIL AV APPLICATION FORMS TO SENIORS**

Referring to the resolution sheet, Commissioner Szczepanski offered the motion with an **Amendment** to remove from paragraph 5 the words: “AUGUST AND NOVEMBER.”

The motion that was placed on the floor reads as follows:

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY DROLET, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROTECT THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF VOTING, CONTINUE THE POLICY OF MAKING THE MACOMB COUNTY ABSENT BALLOT APPLICATION PROCESS UNIFORM, ADVANCE THE PUBLIC INTEREST OF INCREASING MACOMB COUNTY'S CLOUT, AND PROVIDE SENIOR CITIZENS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENT BALLOT REGARDLESS OF WHERE IN THE COUNTY THEY LIVE, BY DIRECTING THE COUNTY CLERK TO MAIL AN "APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT FORM" TO MACOMB COUNTY REGISTERED VOTERS AGE 60 AND OVER FOR THE 2008 ELECTIONS, AT A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000; EXCEPT, AV APPLICATION FORMS WOULD NOT BE SENT TO SENIOR CITIZEN REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ARE ALREADY ON THE PERMANENT AV LIST OR WHOSE LOCAL CLERK AUTOMATICALLY DOES MAIL AV APPLICATION FORMS TO ALL VOTERS AGE 60 AND OVER. FURTHERMORE, \$17,519 WILL BE NECESSARY IN THE 2008 CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS BUDGET FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS HAS LAPSED \$17,519 FROM THE 2007 SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT AND REQUESTS FUNDS FOR THIS RESOLUTION BE ALLOCATED OUT OF THE 2008 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT.

Commissioner DeSaele questioned the legality of this request. She distributed two documents. The first handout was a four-page document entitled, Michigan Election Law (Excerpt) Act 116 of 1954. The second handout was a 10-page document from the State of Michigan, Court of Appeals, in the case of Taylor vs. Currie, et al. Mr. Brumbaugh noted that there are different facts in the case that was just passed out. The request that is before commissioners is a straight request to mail out notifications to people, so that they can fill them out and request the ballot itself.

Commissioner DeSaele requested that Corporation Counsel look into this further and make sure it is legal. Mr. Brumbaugh said that Ms. Smith has been handling that file and is up-to-date on it, so they could provide something by the Full Board meeting.

### **AMENDMENT**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DeSAELE, SUPPORTED BY DROLET, TO INSERT THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE IN THE MOTION: "PENDING A WRITTEN LEGAL OPINION FROM CORPORATION COUNSEL."

Ms. Sabaugh noted that the clerks in Warren, Roseville, and Clinton Township are going to their boards, so this amount of \$60,000 could be reduced. She will be speaking at their boards. She noted that Romeo already passed the resolution.

A discussion ensued with Ms. Sabaugh about the upcoming School Board election in May, the mailing of the AV application forms, and how the coordination will work with the local communities. Ms. Sabaugh said that they have what is called a qualified voter -- so they would not be sending out an AV application to those people that a local clerk has sent out

to. They would absolutely not duplicate it.

During discussion, Mr. Brumbaugh said that he would provide a written opinion before the Full Board meeting.

**Commissioner DeSaele withdrew her Amendment, Commissioner Drolet withdrew his support.**

A discussion ensued with Ms. Sabaugh about how many local clerks will cooperate. During discussion, Ms. Sabaugh spoke about their Absentee Tracking System that they have in place.

A discussion ensued as to why the funding source was identified as the 2008 Contingency Account. Inquiries were directed to Mr. Brumbaugh, Ms. Sabaugh, and Mr. Schmitz.

A **friendly amendment** by Commissioner Vosburg was accepted as follows: "TO NOT ALLOCATE MONEY OUT OF THE 2008 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT AND TO INSTEAD TAKE IT FROM THE ELECTIONS ACCOUNT."

A discussion ensued with Mr. Diegel about how much money is in the Elections Account and how that shows up in the budget document.

Chair Brown called for a vote on the **motion, as amended**, and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The motion that was forwarded to the Full Board reads as follows:

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY DROLET, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROTECT THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF VOTING, CONTINUE THE POLICY OF MAKING THE MACOMB COUNTY ABSENT BALLOT APPLICATION PROCESS UNIFORM, ADVANCE THE PUBLIC INTEREST OF INCREASING MACOMB COUNTY'S CLOUT, AND PROVIDE SENIOR CITIZENS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENT BALLOT REGARDLESS OF WHERE IN THE COUNTY THEY LIVE, BY DIRECTING THE COUNTY CLERK TO MAIL AN "APPLICATION FOR ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOT FORM" TO MACOMB COUNTY REGISTERED VOTERS AGE 60 AND OVER FOR THE 2008 ELECTIONS, EXCEPT, AV APPLICATION FORMS WOULD NOT BE SENT TO SENIOR CITIZEN REGISTERED VOTERS WHO ARE ALREADY ON THE PERMANENT AV LIST OR WHOSE LOCAL CLERK AUTOMATICALLY DOES MAIL AV APPLICATION FORMS TO ALL VOTERS AGE 60 AND OVER AT A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000. FUNDS FOR THIS RESOLUTION WILL BE ALLOCATED OUT OF THE ELECTIONS ACCOUNT. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVE \$163,720 IN ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTAL SPENDING CUTS IN THE 2008 BUDGET AS NOTED ON REVISED EXHIBIT I**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SAUGER, SUPPORTED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE \$163,720 IN ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTAL SPENDING CUTS IN THE 2008 BUDGET AS NOTED ON REVISED EXHIBIT I. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**RECEIVE AND FILE RETIREE HEALTH CARE TRUST FUND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2006**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by DiMaria, supported by Joan Flynn, to receive and file the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Financial Report for 2006. **The Motion Carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Brown reminded commissioners of the special meeting of the Budget Committee on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Commissioner Gielegghem informed commissioners that the Senior Citizens Committee took an action to give 30 days notice to terminate the contract with the current prescription drug discount card provider and begin negotiations for setting up an agreement with NACo to provide those same services. If commissioners have any questions, he will be happy to answer them.

Commissioner Doherty reminded commissioners about the upcoming Macomb County Sheriff Honor Guard fundraiser on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Slinde, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**

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**Denise M. Jacks**  
**Committee Reporter**